

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SE:JGDAY/BJR

APPROVED BY EUR - LBLAINGEN

S/S-O: P. SHANKLE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 095325

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GR, TU, CY

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FROM UK HIGH COMMISSIONER TO CYPRUS

CORNISH OF BRITISH EMBASSY GAVE EUR/SE FOLLOWING TEXT OF
APRIL 24 MESSAGE FROM BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER OLVER
ON HIS CONVERSATION WITH DENKTASH. BEGIN TEXT.

1. I CALLED ON DENKTASH YESTERDAY AFTERNOON TO DISCUSS
PROSPECTS FOR VIENNA. HE WAS PESSIMISTIC. HE THOUGHT
CLERIDES HAD NO REAL NEGOTIATING LATITUDE AND HAD FAILED
TO GET THIS IN HIS RESIGNATION MANOEUVRES. EACH SIDE
DISLIKED THE OTHER'S POSITION PAPER -- THOUGH THERE WAS
ADMITTEDLY A LITTLE COMMON GROUND. IT WAS IN HIS VIEW
A MISTAKE TO INVOLVE WALDHEIM SO EARLY IN THE GAME.
DENKTASH SAID NONETHELESS THAT HE INTENDED TO KEEP THE
BALL IN PLAY FOR THE INITIAL 5 DAYS IN ORDER TO AVERT AN
IMMEDIATE AND UNSEEMLY BREAKDOWN: THIS WOULD AT LEAST
GIVE HIM THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLAIN FULLY THE TURKISH
STAND ON BI-ZONALITY.
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2. I ASKED WHETHER HE WOULD FEEL FREE TO DISCUSS DETAILS
OF A BI-ZONAL PACKAGE ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE GREEK
SIDE MIGHT, IF THEY FOUND THE PACKAGE ACCEPTABLE, THEN
BE WILLING TO SWALLOW THE PRINCIPLE OF BI-ZONALITY.

DENKTASH REPLIED THAT HE COULD DISCUSS THE SHAPE AND POWERS OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT BUT NOT DEMARCATION OF THE LINE: THIS WAS A MILITARY MATTER AND HE HAD NO MANDATE FROM ANKARA, DESPITE A REQUEST MADE SOME WEEKS BACK. WHEN I ASKED IF HE COULD NOT EVEN DISCUSS BROAD AREAS, HE SAID HE SUPPOSED THAT HE COULD REPEAT THE OFFER ALREADY MADE INFORMALLY OF 28 PERCENT.

3. ON THE QUESTION OF THE MOVE OF TURKISH CYPRIOTS FROM THE SOUTH, DENKTASH SAID THAT CELIK HAD BEEN MISQUOTED. THIS WAS NOT A PRINCIPLE ON A PAR WITH BI-ZONALITY, BUT IT WAS NONETHELESS A MATTER OF GREAT IMPORTANCE WHICH HE PROPOSED TO RAISE WITH CLERIDES AT VIENNA. A LARGE PROPORTION OF THE 11,000 GREEK CYPRIOTS IN THE NORTH NOW WISHED TO MOVE SOUTH. HE WAS HOLDING THEM, AGAINST THEIR WILL, AT THE REQUEST OF THE GREEK SIDE. AT THE SAME TIME, TURKISH CYPRIOTS IN THE SOUTH WHO WISHED TO GO NORTH WERE BEING PREVENTED, SOMETIMES WITH TRAGIC RESULTS. HE PROPOSED TO INFORM CLERIDES THAT HENCEFORTH, FOR EVERY TURKISH CYPRIOT REFUSED A MOVE FROM THE SOUTH, HE WOULD RELEASE 5 GREEK CYPRIOTS FROM THE NORTH DESPITE OBJECTIONS FROM THE GREEK SIDE.

4. DENKTASH WAS IN GENERAL CONCILIATORY AND THOUGH, I THINK, GENUINELY PESSIMISTIC, IS NOT PLANNING FOR AN EARLY BREAKDOWN. HE WILL PROBABLY LEAVE CYPRUS ON 25 OR 26 APRIL, SPENDING ONE NIGHT IN ANKARA WHEN HE WILL SEE CAGLAYANGIL. END TEXT.

5. FOR NICOSIA: REFERENCE IN PARA 2 TO "REPEAT" OFFER OF 28 PERCENT IS NEWS TO US. SUGGEST YOU CHECK WITH BRITISH EMBASSY ON ACCURACY OF REPORTED FIGURE. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 26 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PEACE TALKS, PERSONAL OPINION, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE095325
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EUR/SE:JGDAY/BJR
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D750144-1020
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t197504103/baaaahxs.tel
Line Count: 90
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 APR 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <16 SEP 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 971203
Subject: n/a
TAGS: PFOR, CY, GR, TU, (DENKTASH, RAUF)
To: NICOSIA INFO ATHENS
ANKARA
LONDON
USUN N Y
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

